

**10.2: Series**

- Infinite series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  ( $n = 1$  for convenience, it can be anything).
- Partial sums:  $s_N = \sum_{n=1}^N a_n$ . Note  $s_N = s_{N-1} + a_N$ .
- If  $\{s_N\}_{N=1}^{\infty}$  is convergent and  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} s_N = s$  exists as a real number, then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is *convergent*. The number  $s$  is called the **sum** of the series.
- Series we can sum:
  - Geometric Series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ar^{n-1} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ar^n = \frac{a}{1-r}$ ,  $-1 < r < 1$
  - Telescoping Series
- THE TEST FOR DIVERGENCE: If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  does not exist or if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ , then the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  is *divergent*.
- The Test for Divergence cannot be used to prove that a series converges. It can only show a series is divergent.

**Examples**

1. Given a series whose partial sums are given by  $s_n = (7n + 3)/(n + 7)$ , find the general term  $a_n$  of the series and determine if the series converges or diverges. If it converges, find the sum.

2. Find the sum of the following series or show they are divergent:

(a)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{7 + 5^n}{10^n}$

(b)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{8}{(n+1)(n+3)}$

3. Write the repeating decimal  $0.\overline{27}$  as a fraction.

4. Use the test for Divergence to determine whether the series diverges.

(a)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^5}{3(n^4 + 3)(n + 1)}$

(b)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n\sqrt{n}}$

(c)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{6 - e^{-n}}$

### 10.3: The Integral and Comparison Tests; Estimating Sums

- THE TEST FOR DIVERGENCE: If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n$  does not exist or if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n \neq 0$ , then the series  $\sum a_n$  is divergent.
- THE INTEGRAL TEST: Let  $\sum a_n$  be a **positive** series. If  $f$  is a continuous and decreasing function on  $[a, \infty)$  such that  $a_n = f(n)$  for all  $n \geq a$  then  $\sum a_n$  and  $\int_a^\infty f(x) dx$  both converge or both diverge.
- THE COMPARISON TEST: Suppose that  $\sum a_n$  and  $\sum b_n$  are series with **nonnegative** terms and  $a_n \leq b_n$  for all  $n$ .
  1. If  $\sum b_n$  is convergent then  $\sum a_n$  is also convergent.
  2. If  $\sum a_n$  is divergent then  $\sum b_n$  is also divergent.
- LIMIT COMPARISON TEST: Suppose that  $\sum a_n$  and  $\sum b_n$  are series with **positive** terms . If

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_n}{b_n} = c$$

where  $c$  is a finite number and  $c > 0$ , then either both series converge or both diverge.

- The  $p$ -series,  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^p}$ , converges if  $p > 1$  and diverges if  $p \leq 1$ .
- REMAINDER ESTIMATE FOR THE INTEGRAL TEST: If  $\sum a_n$  converges by the Integral Test and  $R_n = s - s_n$ , then

$$\int_{n+1}^{\infty} f(x) dx \leq R_n \leq \int_n^{\infty} f(x) dx$$

#### Examples.

6. (a) If  $\sum_{n=1}^{1000} \frac{1}{n^6}$  is used to approximate  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^6}$ , find an upper bound on the error using the Integral Test.
- (b) Find the sum of the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^6}$  correct to 11 decimal places.

7. Given the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^3 e^{-n^4}$ .

- (a) Show that the series converges.
- (b) Find an upper bound for the error approximating this series by its 5th partial sum  $s_5$ .

8. Find the values of  $p$  for which the series  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n(\ln n)^p}$  is divergent.

9. Determine if the following series is convergent or divergent:

(a)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2012}{\sqrt[7]{n^5} \sqrt[3]{8n}}$

(b)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^2 + 12}{\sqrt{n^6 + 6}}$

(c)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{1}{n^7}\right)$

(d)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{5n^5 + e^{-5n}}{6n^6 - e^{-6n}}$

10. Find the values of  $p$  for which the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(n+1)n^p}$  is convergent.

## 10.4 : Other Convergence Tests

- **ALTERNATING SERIES TEST:** If  $b_n > 0$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0$  and the sequence  $\{b_n\}$  is decreasing then the series  $\sum (-1)^n b_n$  is convergent.
- **RATIO TEST:** For a series  $\sum a_n$  with nonzero terms define  $L = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} \right|$ .
  1. If  $L < 1$  then the series is absolutely convergent (which implies the series is convergent.)
  2. If  $L > 1$  then the series is divergent.
  3. If  $L = 1$  then the series may be divergent, conditionally convergent or absolutely convergent (test fails).
- **The Alternating Series Theorem.** If  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n b_n$  is a convergent alternating series and you used a partial sum  $s_n$  to approximate the sum  $s$  (i.e.  $s \approx s_n$ ) then  $|R_n| \leq b_{n+1}$ .

### Examples

12. Which of the following statements is TRUE?

(a) If  $a_n > 0$  for  $n \geq 1$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n$  converges then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges.

(b) If  $a_n > 0$  for  $n \geq 1$  and  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n$  converges.

(c) If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 0$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n$  converges.

(d) If  $a_n > 0$  for  $n \geq 1$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{a_{n+1}}{a_n} = \frac{e}{2}$  then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n$  converges.

13. Determine whether the following series converges absolutely, converges but not absolutely, or diverges.

(a)  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n^p}$ , where  $p$  is a real parameter.

(b)  $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n\sqrt[4]{\ln n}}$

$$(c) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-9)^n}{(n+1)!}$$

$$(d) \sum_{n=5}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n-1} 7^{n-1}}{4^n}$$

$$(e) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n \cos(n\pi)}{n^2 + n + 1}$$

14. Given the series  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{n+1} n^3 e^{-n^4}$ .

- (a) Show that the series converges.
- (b) Find an upper bound for the error approximating this series by its 5th partial sum  $s_5$ .